

MARINE HOSPITALS IN MEMPHIS AND APALACHICOLA.

MARCH 6, 1860.—Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

Mr. JOHN COCHRANE, from the Committee on Commerce, made the following

REPORT.

The Committee on Commerce, to whom was referred bills to establish and erect marine hospitals at Memphis, Tennessee, and at Apalachicola, Florida, submit the following report:

The experience of the department in the case of sick and disabled seamen proves that in the smaller ports, where invalid seamen are occasionally thrown, their necessary care and maintenance can be better provided for at much less expense in the local hospitals than in any other manner. In relation to these two localities, the views of the Secretary of the Treasury are adverse to the erection of buildings by the United States, in which views your committee concur, and have instructed me to report adversely thereon.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,
February 28, 1860.

SIR: I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, transmitting, among other cases, for the opinion of this department, a bill appropriating the sum of ten thousand dollars for the erection of a marine hospital at Apalachicola, Florida, and a bill appropriating fifty thousand dollars for the establishment and erection of a marine hospital at Memphis, Tennessee.

I beg leave to refer you to my several annual reports on the finances for my views on the establishment of marine hospitals, and would state that further experience has only confirmed and strengthened them. I cannot, therefore, recommend the passage of these bills. The bills are herewith returned.

I am, very respectfully,

HOWELL COBB,
Secretary of the Treasury.

HON. JOHN COCHRANE,
*Of the Committee on Commerce,
House of Representatives.*

